THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) to (c) It is the policy of the Cotton Corporation of India to effect purchases by participating in the open auction held in all the Mandis under the supervision of Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee. Thus, the Corporation effect purchases directly from the growers and not from the traders. The Cotton Corporation also purchase kapas pooled by the Societies from their grower members. However, at places where regulated markets are not functioning, procedure and norms have been prescribed to ensure that kapas are directly purchased from the farmers.

(d) and (e) The total cotton crop during the current cotton seasons is estimated at 94 lakh bales. A total quantity of 8,84,342 bales of cotton has been purchased by the Cotton Corporation of India from various cotton producing States including Gujarat during the current cotton season upto 25th February, 1986. The prices paid by the Cotton Corporation of India for the different varieties of cotton during the current season varied between Rs. 360 to Rs. 700 par quintal depending on the variety and quantity of Kapas.

Economic agreement with Canada

1584. SHRI RAM CHANDRA VIKAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any economic agreement has been signed between India and Canada:

(b) what is the amount of financial aid that would be provided to India by Canada under this agreement; and

(c) what are the items on the purchase of which, the aid provided by Canada will be utilised by India and what shall be the terms and conditions in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (c) No new economic agreement has been signed with Canada in 1985-86. Two Protocols were, however, signed on 18-12-1985. In terms of the first Protocol, Canada has agreed to provide a Line of Credit of C $ 198 million for financing the purchase from Canada of goods and services related to Oil & Gas expoloration and development. In terms of the second Protocol, Canada has agreed to provide a grant of C $ 5 million for financing the cost of training of Indian personnel in Canada as well as in India in certain technical fields. Both these Protocols are to be translated into formal agreement.

बाहरी देशों द्वारा मारुति कारों की खरीद

1585. **श्री रामचन्द्र विकल :** क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि कुछ बाहरी देशों ने मारुति कारों की खरीद के बारे में मारुति कंपनी से पूछताछ की है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उन देशों के नाम क्या हैं ; और

(ग) क्या मारुति कारों के निर्यात की अनुमति देने के संबंध में भारत सरकार ने कोई निर्णय लिया है ?

वाणिज्य और खाद्य और नागरिक पूर्ति मंत्री (श्री पी० शिव शंकर) : (क) तथा (ख) मारुति कम्पनी हंगरी, चेकोस्लोवाकिया, जर्मन लोकतंत्रीय गणराज्य, बंगलादेश, नेपाल तथा मारिशस को अपनी गाडियां बेचने के प्रयास कर रही है।

(ग) अगर संविदाएं सफलतापूर्वक सम्पन्न हो जाती हैं तो यह कम्पनी गाड़ियों का निर्यात करेगी।

Irregularities committed by the officials of the Hindustan Vegetable Oil Corporation

1586. SHRI D. HEERACHAND: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1100 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 2nd August, 1985 and state:

(a) whether the inquiry into the irregularities committed in Government owned Hindustan Vegetable Oils Corporation has since been completed; and